

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BUJUMB 00833 221319Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 IO-13 /089 W

-----035546 221948Z /72

R 220935Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6393

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUJUMBURA 0833

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, SU, BY, CH

SUBJECT: PRC INTEREST IN SOVIET MILITARY AID TO BURUNDI

1. AT BELGIAN NATIONAL DAY RECEPTION JULY 21, I ENGAGED NEWLY RETURNED PRC AMBASSADOR IN CONVERSATION ON LOCAL DEVELOPMENTS. HE WAS ONLY MILDLY COMMUNICATIVE. HE DID SAY, HOWEVER, THAT THIS WEEK'S MUTINY IN THE BURUNDI ARMY (OVER PAY) SHOWED INSTABILITIES WHICH COULD BECOME SERIOUS. EQUALLY UPSETTING WAS THE DELIVERY OF NEW SOVIET ARMS TO BURUNDI, WHICH HE CHARACTERIZED AS SUBSTANTIAL. THIS WOULD BEAR CLOSE WATCHING BECAUSE HE THOUGHT IT PART OF A SOVIET ATTEMPT TO PENETRATE THE BURUNDIAN GOVERNMENT MORE DEEPLY.

2. I ASKED WHETHER IN VIEW OF PARALLEL U.S.-PRC INTERESTS IN FOLLOWING MATTERS NOTED PARA ONE, IT WAS NOT TIME FOR US TO HAVE INFORMAL BILATERAL CONTACTS TO EXCHANGE VIEWS OCCASIONALLY, SINCE MEETING AT RECEPTIONS WAS INFREQUENT AND HAPHAZARD. HE WAS FIRM IN HIS REFUSAL, AND SAID HIS ORDERS WERE VERY STRICT. TO BE SURE, THERE WERE SIGNS THAT THIS PHASE OF OUR DEALINGS MIGHT WELL SOON BE OVER, BUT THAT HAD NOT RPT NOT HAPPENED YET. MEANWHILE, OUR CHATS AT OCCASIONS SPONSORED BY THIRD PARTIES COULD CONTINUE, AND, IF THERE WERE SOMETHING URGENT ABOUT BURUNDI, IT COULD BE BROUGHT TO THE OTHER SIDE'S ATTENTION VIA USLO PEKING, USUN NEW YORK, OR THE DEPARTMENT WASHINGTON.

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HE REBUFFED JUST AS COMPLETELY THE POSSIBILITY OF INFORMAL MEETINGS BELOW AMBASSADORIAL LEVEL.

MARK

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY ASSISTANCE, ARMS SHIPMENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PRC INTEREST IN SOVIET MILITARY AID TO BURUNDI  
**TAGS:** MILI, SU, BY, CH, UR  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009